

Overview of USG Activities in Trade Capacity Building in Costa Rica

- The US Government is providing \$47.8 million in Trade Capacity Building (TCB) activities to Costa Rica and Central America.
- \$2.2 million is specifically for Costa Rica in areas like:
 - administration of labor justice,
 - job training for disabled,
 - biotechnology,
 - budget and debt,
 - environment, and
 - plant and animal health.

Example project: The US Department of Agriculture and the Costa Rican Ministry of Agriculture and Cattle established a cooperative cattle monitoring program. The program developed a monitoring system to prevent and control cattle diseases that have the potential to cause serious problems for the cattle industry in Costa Rica and the US. Veterinarians and animal health technicians monitor cattle in order to detect and prevent highly contagious diseases. The project is valued at \$320,000.

- The remaining \$45.6 million is dedicated to activities that benefit all CAFTA-DR countries. Activity areas include:
 - customs,
 - workers rights,
 - civil society engagement,
 - labor and environmental standards,
 - chemicals management,
 - fisheries and national parks, and
 - conservation.

Example project: A \$2 million USAID project works with the Central American textile industry through local factories, unions, and international brands. The project includes large-scale employee and manager training on how to exercise rights guaranteed under international conventions, national laws, and codes of conduct. There is also a focus on preventing gender discrimination, promoting freedom of association, and ensuring occupational health and safety.

- The funding originates with various USG departments and agencies: State, USAID, Labor, Environmental Protection Agency, US Department of Agriculture, NASA, Treasury, Interior and Commerce.
- The State Department provides \$20.84 million of the regional total. Of the State regional portion, USAID funds \$14.84 million and the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor allocates \$6 million for programs.